



Iowa Ag News – Sheep and Lambs

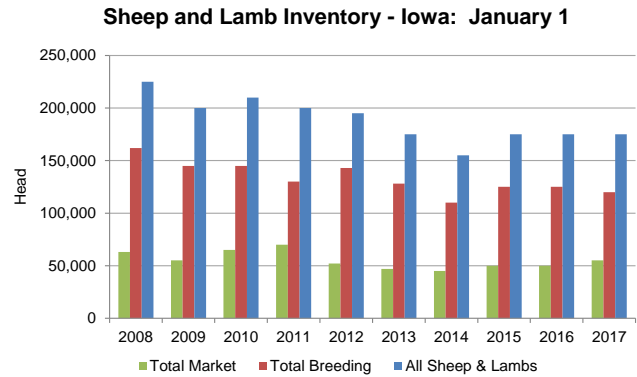
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Cooperating with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

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All sheep and lambs inventory in Iowa as of January 1, 2017, totaled 175,000 head according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – *Sheep and Goats* report. The sheep and lambs inventory remained unchanged from last year. Total **breeding stock**, at 120,000 head, was 4 percent below one year ago. **Market sheep and lambs** increased 10 percent from a year ago and totaled 55,000 head. The **lamb crop** for 2016 increased 1 percent to 125,000 head. **Wool production** for the State was 900,000 pounds, with fleece weights averaging 5.5 pounds.



All Sheep and Lambs, Number by Class – Iowa and United States: January 1, 2016 and 2017

Class	Iowa			United States		
	2016	2017	2017 as % of 2016	2016	2017	2017 as % of 2016
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
All sheep and lambs	175.0	175.0	100	5,300.0	5,200.0	98
Total breeding sheep	125.0	120.0	96	3,945.0	3,855.0	98
Ewes	100.0	95.0	95	3,105.0	3,035.0	98
Rams	5.0	5.0	100	175.0	170.0	97
Replacement lambs	20.0	20.0	100	665.0	650.0	98
Total market	50.0	55.0	110	1,355.0	1,345.0	99

Lamb Crop – Iowa and United States: 2015 and 2016

	Iowa			United States		
	2015	2016	2016 as % of 2015	2015	2016	2016 as % of 2015
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
Lamb crop	124.0	125.0	101	3,275.0	3,250.0	99

Wool Production, Price and Value – Iowa and United States: 2015 and 2016

Class	Iowa			United States		
	2015	2016	2016 as % of 2015	2015	2016	2016 as % of 2015
Sheep shorn.....(1,000 head)	165.0	165.0	100	3,675.0	3,560.0	97
Weight per fleece.....(pounds)	5.5	5.5	100	7.4	7.2	97
Production.....(1,000 pounds)	900	900	100	27,015	25,740	95
Price per pound.....(dollars)	0.79	0.56	71	1.45	1.45	100
Value ¹(1,000 dollars)	711	504	71	39,205	37,214	95

¹ Production multiplied by marketing year average price. United States value is the summation of State values.

United States Inventory

All sheep and lamb inventory in the United States on January 1, 2017 totaled 5.20 million head, down 2 percent from 2016. **Breeding sheep** inventory at 3.86 million head on January 1, 2017, decreased 2 percent from 3.95 million head on January 1, 2016. **Ewes one year old and older**, at 3.04 million head, were 2 below last year. **Market sheep and lambs** on January 1, 2017 totaled 1.35 million head, down 1 percent from January 1, 2016. Market lambs comprised 94 percent of the total market inventory. Market sheep comprised the remaining 6 percent of total market inventory.

The 2016 **lamb crop** of 3.25 million head was down 1 percent from 2015. The 2016 **lambing rate** was 105 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2016, unchanged from 2015.

Shorn wool production in the United States during 2016 was 25.7 million pounds, down 5 percent from 2015. **Sheep and lambs shorn** totaled 3.56 million head, down 3 percent from 2015. The average price paid for wool sold in 2016 was \$1.45 per pound for a total value of 37.2 million dollars, down 5 percent from 39.2 million dollars in 2015.

Sheep death loss during 2016 totaled 217 thousand head, down 5 percent from 2015. **Lamb death loss** decreased 1 percent from 374 thousand head to 372 thousand head in 2016.

All Sheep and Lamb Inventory – United States: January 1

Thousand head

